## CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 4, 2006

City Council to Consider Override of Mayor's Veto of Bill 71
Discussion of "street performers" bill to occur during council meeting on January 25

HONOLULU, HI – Following Mayor Mufi Hannemann's announcement of his intention to veto Bill 71 (2005), Council Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz has set the January 25<sup>th</sup> council meeting as the date to consider an override. Mayor Hannemann has until January 6 to transmit his veto message to the City Council. This is the Mayor's first veto and would be the first override of a mayoral veto since 2003.

Bill 71 passed third reading at the City Council's December 20 meeting. Sponsored by Councilmember Charles Djou, whose council district includes Waikiki, Bill 71 seeks to reduce congestion and improve pedestrian safety on Waikiki sidewalks during the peak pedestrian hours of 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. by establishing conditions on performances that ensure that they do not unduly interfere with pedestrian and vehicular ingress and egress and safe pedestrian transit.

"Assuming the Mayor follows through with his veto, we can take action anytime after five days and up to 30 days following the veto," said Council Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz. "As soon as I receive a draft of the Mayor's proposed bill, I will sign it so it can be heard on first reading during the January 25 meeting. As a matter of procedure, the Council will consider the override first, prior to discussing the Mayor's proposal."

"I am disappointed that Mayor Hannemann opted to ignore concerns of Waikiki residents, small business owners, HPD and the Prosecutor's Office, and instead gave in to the intimidation by the ACLU with his veto of Bill 71," said Councilmember Charles Djou. "The City Council gave multiple opportunities to both the ACLU and Mayor Hanneman to participate in the bill drafting process, but both refused to offer any constructive suggestions. Bill 71 is a reasonable and sensible bill that only limits street performers for a mere three hours a day on only four blocks of Kalakaua Aveune. This measure deserves to be enacted and I look forward to seeing it become law by overriding Mayor Hanneman's veto. Nevertheless, after a veto over-ride, I believe the Mayor's tardy counter offer deserves a hearing. I look forward to giving the administration the opportunity to explain their position at an upcoming committee hearing."

######